

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

**Please amend page 12 starting on line 13, 2<sup>nd</sup> full paragraph:**

In accordance with an aspect of the present invention, there is provided a communication apparatus comprising an audio compression unit for compressing an audio signal and outputting the compressed signal as an audio coded signal, and a fax-termination/switching control unit which ~~switches a line from an output of the audio compression unit,~~ carries out termination processing on a fax signal and ~~outputs~~ controls a switch to output not an output of said audio compression but the fax signal completing the termination processing when the fax signal is detected. The communication apparatus is characterized in that the apparatus further has an exclusion processing unit which is provided in front of the audio compression unit and blocks transmission of a raw negotiation signal to the audio compression unit in an exclusion process when detecting the negotiation signal.